GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2594
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2016
Meeting of NCST
Gutha Shri Sukender Reddy

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission on Scheduled Tribes (NCST) has held a meeting with the Andhra Pradesh Government to discuss the diverse petitions on Polavaram Dam;

(b) if so, the details and outcome thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to safeguard Scheduled Tribe people of Polavaram Dam?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA)

(a): & (b): As per information received from the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST), Smt. K. Kamala Kumari, the then Member, NCST visited the Project Areas from 02.01.2014 to 11.01.2014. The Member's Report was discussed in 64th Meeting of the Commission held on 21.11.2014 and the said Report was sent to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh. In response, a letter dated 03.03.2016 was received from the Tribal Welfare Department, State Government of Andhra Pradesh.

The Commission also directed the then Secretary, NCST for discussion on R&R activities for tribal displaced families in Polavaram Project with State Government Officials at Hyderabad in January, 2016.

(c): The Constitution of India provides safeguards to the Scheduled Tribes. In recent years The Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996, Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 and The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act 2013 have been enacted towards this.

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